

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/661,306

Applicant(s)

NOBUMOTO, FERNANDO
HISSASHI

Examiner

Sana Al-Hashemi

Art Unit

2164

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 11/2/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-48 as renumbered 1-36.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Sana Al-Hashemi

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is issued in response to applicant's amendment filed 11/2/06.
2. Claims 1-12 were canceled. Claims 13-48 were added.
3. Claims 13-48 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Noam R. Pollack on December 14, 2006. The application has been amended as follows:

Please replace claim 13 with the following:

13. (Currently Amended) SYSTEM FOR MUSICE DIGITIZATION, STORAGE, ACCESS AND LISTINING, comprising:

- at least one digital local server comprising large capacity storage means for storing a local database containing information related to at least one digitized CD and respective music tracks;
- at least one listening station consisting of a plurality of hardware devices comprising a keyboard, a display, a bar-code reader for identifying packaging associated with music CD's, an audio amplifier and a local network interface;

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- a local network interconnecting said at least one listening station to said at least one local music server,

wherein said local server is provided with:

- listening station control software to control an operation of said listening station;
- local server maintenance software;

wherein said at least one listening station further comprises:

- a microcontroller associated with a flash memory provided with a firmware for controlling said plurality of hardware devices, and random access memory for storing digitized music blocks.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claim 13, the prior art of record fails to teach, disclose or suggest the step of at least one digital local server comprising large capacity storage means for storing a local database containing information related to at least one digitized CD and respective music tracks; at least one listening station consisting of a plurality of hardware devices comprising a keyboard, a display, a bar-code reader for identifying packaging associated with music CE's an audio amplifier and local network interface; a local network interconnecting said at least one listening station to said at least one local music server; wherein said local server is provided with:

- listening station control software to control the operation of said listening station;

- local server maintenance software;

Wherein said at least one listening station further comprises “

- a microcontroller associated with a flash memory provided with a firmware for controlling said plurality of hardware devices, and a random access memory for storing digitized music blocks, in conjunction with remaining claim provisions, is not taught or suggested, or rendered obvious over the prior art of record or that encountered in searching the invention.

The dependent claims 14-48, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the Specification also allowed.

Comments

The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany

the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

As allowable subject matter has been indicated, Applicant's response must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CRF 1.111(b) and MPEP section 707.07(a).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sana Al-Hashemi whose telephone number is 571-272-4013.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8Am-4:30Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones, can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Sana Al-Hashemi
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
December 14, 2006